



# County of Erie

MARK POLONCARZ  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

GALE R. BURSTEIN, MD, MPH  
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

## HEALTH ADVISORY # 300 INFLUENZA VACCINE AVAILABILITY

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**Please distribute to the Healthcare Providers, Infection Control Department, Emergency Department, Employee Health Service, Infectious Disease Department, Director of Nursing, Medical Director, Laboratory Service, and all patient care areas.**

The Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) continues to encourage medical providers to vaccinate their patients against influenza. Laboratory confirmed influenza was been reported in all 57 New York State counties plus New York City. Reports of patient visits for influenza-like illness and the number of patients admitted to the hospital with laboratory confirmed influenza continue to increase.

At this time, there is no shortage of influenza vaccine. If your facility needs additional influenza vaccine, the following resource can be used:

[http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/ivats\\_12\\_13.pdf](http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/ivats_12_13.pdf)

Information on influenza can be found at:

<http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/influenza/seasonal/>

<http://www2.erie.gov/health/index.php?q=novel-influenza-h1n1-virus-information>

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact the ECDOH Epidemiology and Surveillance Program at 716-858-7697 (Monday - Friday 8:30AM – 3:30PM).

### **Health Category Definitions:**

**Health Alert FLASH:** conveys the highest level of importance due to a large-scale, catastrophic public health emergency; warrants immediate action or attention

**Health Alert Priority:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention to a health problem or situation

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

**Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary

The ECDOH Health Alert & Advisory System is an e-mail notification system designed to alert community partners about important health related information. You can sign up to receive alerts & advisories at <http://www2.erie.gov/health/index.php?q=node/59>.

The Erie County Department of Health does not provide medical advice. The information provided on the Erie County Department of Health website is not an attempt to practice medicine and is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. It is for informational purposes only. Always seek the advice of your personal physician or other qualified health provider with any questions you may have regarding a medical condition or issue. Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it because of the content found on the Erie County Department of Health website or this correspondence.